

[14 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

Rate of coal royalty

2417. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's view on the report submitted on 14th July 2006, by the Committee constituted for revision of rates of royalty;

(b) whether Government is agreeable to royalty fixed market rates as suggested by Planning Commission and requested by Chhattisgarh Government which obtains 78 per cent of its royalty revenue from coal; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) The report of the Committee on revision of rates of royalty on coal and lignite is under consideration of the Government along with the views/suggestions of all stake-holders.

Report by the Chief Vigilance Officer, CIL

†2418. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chief Vigilance Officer of CIL had concluded in his report that such companies exist only on papers which were allotted the work of coal transportation -in Dipika and Gevra coal mines under SECL (Chhattisgarh) and a special group has ownership rights of these companies,

(b) whether it has also been indicated in the said report that SECL has handed over its complete control rights to the said group; and

(c) if so, the action taken by SECL against the said coal transportation company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), CIL had deputed a team of officers from CIL Vigilance Division to investigate the alleged irregularities in the coal transportation system at Gevra area of SECL. During the investigation, CVO, CIL had discovered certain

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

deficiencies in the transportation system and had also suggested certain measures to improve the system. Report of CVO, CIL received in the Ministry was sent to SECL management with the advice to consider the issues raised therein. The report of CVO, CIL was discussed in the SECL Board meetings and decisions were taken on the course of action to be followed. Based on the recommendations of CVO, CIL, SECL has taken the following measures.

- (i) New Feeder Breakers have been installed at Dipika Expansion project resulting in increase in crushing capacity.
- (ii) Action has been taken for installation of additional weighbridges so that all the coal moving out of colliery premises is weighed at the colliery premises and at the siding on electronic weighbridge at suitable location.
- (iii) It has been decided that Ex-Servicemen (ESM) companies will be deployed in pre-fixed routes and sectors on fortnightly basis and any change in the route/sector during that period shall be for the reasons to be recorded in writing.
- (iv) An independent agency has been engaged by CIL to carry out the work of fixation of normative rates for high capacity equipment.
- (v) Two number of check posts at the gate of M/s Aryan Coal Beneficiation Company have been added.
- (vi) A separate route has been established for movement of raw coal from Dipika expansion to old Dipika mine to avoid mixing with washery coal movement.
- (vii) The matter regarding common link between ESM companies was referred by SECL to the Director General of Resettlement (DGR). DGR informed that all the ESM companies working in SECL are functioning as per the Memorandum of Understanding.

Ministry of Coal also requested the CBI to undertake a deeper probe into the matter based on the issues identified by CVO, CIL in his aforesaid report. CBI informed that surprise checks were conducted on November 22, 2005 along with the Vigilance Officers of SECL at Gevra/Dipika area of SECL but no material either as regards coal being shipped out or pertaining to quality of coal tested at CFRI laboratory could be found which would

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have warranted CBI inquiry. In response to further clarification sought by this Ministry, CBI reiterated on 18-04-2006 that no material either as regards to weight of coal being shipped out or pertaining to quality of coal tested at CFRI laboratory could be found which would have warranted CBI inquiry. CBI had also suggested that CIL should initiate and implement effective preventive vigilance steps as well as bring in place a functional internal control mechanism to stop pilferage of coal etc. CIL has been advised to consider the suggestions made by CBI

Assessment of coal reserves in Jharkhand

2419. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether extractable coal reserves falling within Jharkhand has been assessed;

(b) if so, the details including findings thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the existing industrial demands for coking and non-coking coal in Jharkhand being met by Coal India and/ or its subsidiaries out of the coal mined in the State itself and from outside the State both in absolute and in percentage terms; and

(e) whether coal demands of industries in Jharkhand are being met by mines in other States and, at the same time, coal mined within Jharkhand being exported to other States, justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) As per the estimates of Geological Survey of India (GSI) on 1-1-06, a total of 73.897 billion tonnes of geological resources of coal has so far been estimated in Jharkhand state in proved, indicated and inferred categories as given below:

Coal resources of Jharkhand (in million tonnes)			
Total	Category-wise coal resources		
	Proved	Indicated	Inferred
7389.7	36148	31411	
6338			